

Alliance Point 3: Focus law enforcement efforts against criminal organizations and those who facilitate their operations in both countries.

ACTION	BASELINE As of 1 Feb 98	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	STATUS As of 31 Aug 99
<p>3.1. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will each strengthen their professional counterdrug investigative and prosecutorial capacity through cooperation, training, information sharing and confidence building with the other country.</p>	<p>During recent years, the two governments have developed the High Level Contact Group, Senior Law Enforcement Plenary, technical working groups on specific issues as well as legal instruments such as the TIEA, FIEA, and MLAT to enhance cooperation, information sharing and confidence building.</p> <p>For a number of years the two governments have conducted training and technical assistance programs. As of February 1998, the two governments were considering a U.S. proposal for training and technical assistance for law enforcement academies (OPDAT and ICITAP).</p> <p>Mexico has established various programs for the strengthening of the country's criminal law enforcement system including a selection process for hiring and retention of all PGR personnel.</p>	<p>Continue to build upon the strong foundation established by these mechanisms. Increase their effectiveness in resolving problems in bilateral cooperation and to address other issues of mutual concern.</p> <p>The U.S. and Mexico will conduct joint training of law enforcement personnel in investigative techniques such as drug detection, basic surveillance techniques, money laundering and financial crimes, and coordination of criminal investigations. These programs contribute to building mutual confidence and facilitating information exchange.</p>	<p>Evaluation of the effectiveness of these bilateral institutions in expanding cooperation and confidence building.</p> <p>Number of police and prosecutors trained in counternarcotics investigative and prosecutorial techniques; increased actions aimed at dismantling criminal organizations; relationship between the results of cooperation and information exchange programs and the dismantling of criminal organizations, and arrest numbers.</p> <p>Evaluation of the frequency, completeness, timeliness, and usefulness of reciprocal exchanges of information.</p>	<p>Three meetings of the Senior Law Enforcement Plenary and two of the High Level Contact Group were held. Issues covered included law enforcement efforts against criminal organizations.</p> <p>DEA relies upon the High Level Contact Group and the Binational Commission for addressing various issues and problems.</p> <p>DEA trained 176 Mexican vetted agents through the basic course at Xerox University, Leesburg, VA.</p> <p>DEA provided basic investigative techniques to 100 Mexican agents (June/July 1999), and Mobile Enforcement Team (MET) training to 44 Mexican Agents (April 1999, Mexico City).</p> <p>The Attorneys General of Mexico and the U.S., by means of the Brownsville, Texas Letter, and the Mérida, Yucatán Memorandum of Understanding, agreed to initiate joint training programs between federal law enforcement agencies. As a consequence, the following Binational Seminars were held:</p>

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3.1. (Con't)				<p>1. Binational Seminar – Columbia, South Carolina (Nov. 1998). The following issues were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling of evidence; • Wiretapping, and • Asset seizure and forfeiture. <p>2. Binational Seminar – Mexico City (Jun. 1999). This seminar was the follow-up to the Joint Training Program held in South Carolina. The following issues were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling of evidence and international cooperation in organized crime cases; • Asset seizure and forfeiture as a tool for fighting organized crime; • Mutual Legal Assistance, and • Extradition and procedures under Article 4 in Mexico. <p>The Seminars met the objectives agreed by both Attorneys General, since they covered a real exchange between both countries and allowed for the identification of specific issues for improving collaboration. Seminars allowed for better understanding of the similarities and differences between both</p>
3.1. (Con't)		At least 85% of attendees satisfied with program and find	Percentage of attendees satisfied with training programs offered	

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		it relevant to their current duties.	based on evaluation forms.	<p>legal systems, as well as an effective interchange on investigative and surveillance techniques, drug detection and money laundering, in compliance with each country's legislation. 25 Mexican and 25 American civil servants attended.</p> <p>In coordination with the U.S. Embassy, from November 9 through 19, 1998, the Police Investigation on Financial Crimes course was given.</p> <p>DEA has received positive remarks on the content and presentation of training.</p>

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<p>3.1.1 Each country will continue to design and will implement programs for selection, scrutiny and ongoing screening for the professional and ethical conduct of counterdrug investigators and prosecutors.</p>	<p><u>U.S.</u> DEA hired 647 Special Agents between October 1996 and February 1998, with all candidates completing a thorough screening process, composed of an in-depth background investigation, drug-testing, and psychological and polygraph examinations.</p> <p>On May 2, 1997, the PGR established a Confidence Control Center to carry out vetting so as to detect staff reliability, particularly those who take part in the fight against drug trafficking. These vetting procedures include medical, toxicological, psychological examinations, investigation into family background and financial situation and, for the first time in Mexico, the systematic use of the lie detector or polygraph.</p> <p>Newly hired federal prosecutors and judicial police agents receive initial and training updates covering legal, technical and other relevant operational matters at the INACIPE and at the Training Institute of the PGR.</p>	<p>From March 1998 through July 1999, DEA will hire 581 additional Special Agents, with all candidates completing the screening process.</p> <p>Strengthen and improve programs and mechanisms for selection, monitoring and reviewing the behavior of investigators and prosecutors.</p> <p>Continue the PGR hiring program with all candidates completing the required vetting process.</p>	<p>Number of Special Agents screened.</p> <p>Effectiveness of selection, monitoring and performance review mechanisms; effectiveness and quality of investigations targeting criminal organizations.</p> <p>Continue program according to requirements.</p>	<p>100 candidates have completed the screening process, of whom 50 are scheduled for the August class and 50 are scheduled for the September class. Including those who have completed training, a total of 724 candidates screened this year.</p> <p>On August 17, 1998, the Formation Course for Public Ministry Agents was initiated. 104 trainees who were approved by the screening process started the course.</p> <p>On January 30, 1999, the course for the first generation of Federal Crime Investigators finished, after a one year duration; 232 trainees graduated. This new generation was made up of college graduates in social sciences and humanities, and all underwent a vetting process for admittance.</p> <p>From May 1998 through October 1999, a total of 2911 civil servants were vetted by PGR's Confidence Control Center.</p>

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<p>3.1.1.1 Both countries will strengthen their abilities to conduct counternarcotics investigations and prosecute the offense in criminal proceedings. To that end, each country will seek mutually agreed formulas to cooperate in the training and education of law enforcement officers, investigators, and prosecutors and to establish general frameworks for training, and technical and materiel support.</p>	<p>To strengthen U.S.-Mexico cooperation and coordination of drug operations and intelligence, both countries initiated a bilateral training program for selected law enforcement personnel.</p>	<p>Both countries will cooperate in the design of new training programs; for example, conduct a 2-week course on drug-related violence and Mobile Enforcement Team initiative.</p> <p>The U.S. and Mexico will conduct joint training of law enforcement personnel in investigative techniques such as drug detection, basic surveillance techniques, money laundering and financial crimes, and coordination of criminal investigations.</p>	<p>Number of investigators and prosecutors trained in counternarcotics investigative and prosecutorial techniques.</p> <p>Improved coordination and quality of training courses.</p> <p>Percentage of positive appraisals of training courses by students.</p> <p>Relationship between the results of training and education programs and the dismantling of criminal organizations and arrest numbers.</p>	<p>See 3.1.</p> <p>See 3.1.</p>

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3.1.2 Training programs and assistance will focus on utilizing the most effective evidence gathering, investigative, and prosecutorial techniques permitted by respective laws.	As of February 1998, the two governments were considering a U.S. proposal for training and technical assistance for law enforcement academies (OPDAT and ICITAP).	<p>The U.S. and Mexico will conduct joint training of law enforcement personnel in investigative techniques such as drug detection, basic surveillance techniques, money laundering and financial crimes, and coordination of criminal investigations.</p> <p>At least 85% of attendees satisfied with program and find it relevant to their current duties.</p>	<p>Number of police and prosecutors trained in counternarcotics investigative and prosecutorial techniques.</p> <p>Effectiveness of the techniques of investigations, obtaining evidence and criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Quality of the investigation techniques and their practical usefulness.</p> <p>Percentage of those prosecutors and investigators satisfied with training programs.</p>	See 3.1.

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<p>3.1.3 Both countries will allocate the necessary resources and equipment to conduct effective selection, screening and training for counterdrug enforcement personnel.</p>	<p>All DEA Special Agents complete a 12-week Basic Agent Training Course, which includes instruction in ethics, integrity, leadership and management, electronic surveillance, domestic undercover operations, financial investigations, basic and advanced drug enforcement methods, cannabis eradication, and clandestine laboratory investigations. Between October 1996 and February 1998, 993 Special Agents completed this training.</p> <p>Mexico's training institutions established training programs for prosecutors and Federal Judicial Police agents that emphasize practical aspects of investigative techniques and prosecutorial approaches.</p> <p>Newly hired federal prosecutors and judicial police agents receive initial and training updates, covering legal, technical and other relevant operational matters at the INACIPE and at the Training Institute of the PGR.</p>	<p>From March 1998 through July 1999, DEA will hire 581 additional Special Agents, with all candidates completing the existing training process.</p>	<p>Complete hiring new Special Agents, with all candidates completing the existing training curriculum.</p>	<p>624 Special Agents have completed training as of 31 July 1999, with the remaining 100 scheduled. A total of 724 candidates were selected this year.</p> <p>246 Federal Judicial Police agents were trained in March 99, 232 Federal investigators January 99, and 101 criminal experts April 99. Through August 99, 368 candidates to the Federal Judicial Police and 83 Federal Investigators were being trained. Between August 98 and May 99, 74 agents completed the initial training and joined PGR.</p>

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<p>3.2. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will develop thorough investigations, compelling prosecutions, and sustainable convictions with commensurate sentencing against leaders of the major drug trafficking organizations. Both governments will strengthen with all legal and investigative resources available, criminal proceedings brought against well known leaders and other members of major drug trafficking organizations. The use of evidence introduced at these proceedings will conform to the domestic procedures of each country.</p>	<p><u>U.S.</u> 723 U.S. OCDETF investigations initiated against significant drug trafficking organizations and drug distribution groups, which include the leaders of such organizations. As of Feb. 1, 1998, 5 major multi-district coordinated domestic investigations were underway.</p> <p><u>Mexico</u> Mexico is developing in-depth investigations against all major drug trafficking organizations operating within its territory. As a result of these investigations, by February 1998, major drug traffickers have been arrested, and prosecuted.</p>	<p>Continued emphasis on OCDETF-level investigations initiated against significant drug trafficking organizations, including the leaders of such organizations. Continued focus on major multi-district domestic investigations.</p> <p>Each government, according to its domestic procedures, will complete investigations designed to produce prosecution and sustainable conviction with commensurate sentencing against a leader of at least one major drug trafficking organization as well as at least one leader of a major distribution group, as identified in the Bi-National Drug Threat Assessment.</p>	<p>Number of U.S. counterdrug investigations of significant drug trafficking organizations as well as drug distribution groups coordinated through the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task force and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program.</p> <p>Number of major multi-district domestic investigations underway</p> <p>Number and results of investigations and criminal cases against major drug traffickers and distribution groups.</p>	<p>During FY 1998, OCDETF initiated 1,356 new investigations, an 88% increase over FY 1997 in which 723 investigations took place. Through 20 July 1999, OCDETF had initiated 1,095 investigations for FY1999.</p> <p>28 major multi-district investigations are currently underway, in contrast to the 5 major investigations that were underway as of 1 February 1998.</p> <p>During FY 98 and the first semester of 99, the PGR – through FEADS and UEDO initiated 2918 narcotrafficking and related crimes investigations. In addition, investigations against criminal organizations continue.</p>

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<p>3.3. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will adopt measures to enhance the effectiveness of the bilateral cooperation system to combat transnational organized crime, particularly in the areas of coordination, liaison mechanisms between authorities, exchange of information, logistical support and status of foreign agents ensuring strict compliance with rules and regulations applicable in the development of programs.</p>	<p>Both governments have established liaison officers in the other country. Regular meetings are held between these officers and host nation law enforcement personnel to coordinate operations and exchange information in accordance with the laws of each country.</p> <p>Mexico adopted rules for foreign agents in 1992.</p>	<p>Continue sharing information and foster improved law enforcement cooperation.</p>	<p>Continued improvement in the sharing of information and law enforcement cooperation in compliance with applicable rules and regulations.</p> <p>Effectiveness and quality of liaison and logistic support mechanisms.</p> <p>Evaluation of frequency, completeness, timeliness, and usefulness of reciprocal exchanges.</p>	<p>Both governments support the HLCG, Binational Commission, Senior Law Enforcement Plenary, and adhere to the Brownsville/Mérida accords. Information sharing is continuous.</p> <p>Both governments provided information to each other that has facilitated seizures and arrests in the other country.</p> <p>In place mechanisms to exchange information have improved the frequency, effectiveness, and timeliness of information shared.</p>

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3.4. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will exchange information regarding intermediary distribution organizations that maintain contacts with transnational narcotics organizations that operate in both countries.	See 3.3.	See 3.3.	See 3.3.	See Status, 3.3.
3.5. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will continue to discuss the merits of specific cases to build the strongest prosecutions in the appropriate jurisdiction. Both countries will work towards prosecuting cases that will achieve sentences commensurate with the gravity of the offenses.	Regular coordination meetings are held to assess and monitor cases in progress.	Continue the sharing of prosecutorial and investigative information which will foster increased targeting and prosecution of major drug trafficking organizations.	Quality, effectiveness, and timeliness of information and cooperation; number of targeted and prosecuted major drug trafficking organizations resulting from this cooperation.	See Status, 3.3.